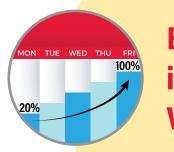


# Prevent Heat Illness at Work

Outdoor and indoor heat exposure can be dangerous.

## Ways to Protect Yourself and Others



Ease into Work

#### Nearly 3 out of 4 fatalities from heat illness happen during the first week of work.

- ✓ New and returning workers need to build tolerance to heat (acclimatize) and take frequent breaks.
- Follow the 20% Rule. On the first day, work no more than 20% of the shift's duration at full intensity in the heat. Increase the duration of time at full intensity by no more than 20% a day until workers are used to working in the heat.



#### **Drink Cool Water**

Drink cool water even if you are not thirsty — at least 1 cup every 20 minutes.



#### **Dress for the Heat**

Wear a hat and light-colored, loose-fitting, and breathable clothing if possible.



#### **Take Rest Breaks**

Take enough time to recover from heat given the temperature, humidity, and conditions.



#### **Watch Out for Each Other**

Monitor yourself and others for signs of heat illness.



#### **Find Shade or a Cool Area**

Take breaks in a designated shady or cool location.



#### If Wearing a Face Covering

Change your face covering if it gets wet or soiled. Verbally check on others frequently.

### **First Aid for Heat Illness**

#### The following are signs of a medical emergency!



- Abnormal thinking or behavior
- Slurred speech
- Seizures
- Loss of consciousness



**CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY** 



**COOL THE WORKER RIGHT AWAY WITH WATER OR ICE** 



STAY WITH THE WORKER UNTIL HELP ARRIVES



#### Watch for any other signs of heat illness and act quickly. When in doubt, call 911.

#### If a worker experiences:

Headache or nausea

Weakness or dizziness

Heavy sweating or hot, dry skin

Elevated body temperature

Thirst

Decreased urine output



#### Take these actions:

- Sive water to drink
- Remove unnecessary clothing
- Move to a cooler area
- Cool with water, ice, or a fan
- Do not leave alone
- Seek medical care if needed



